

MINUTES OF THE DAVIDSON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
January 7, 2009

The Davidson County Election Commission (DCEC) met at 3:00 p.m. on January 7, 2009 in the Metro Office Building. Commissioners Eddie Bryan, Ana Escobar, Lynn Greer, Patricia Heim, and A. J. Starling were present. DCEC staff members present included Administrator of Elections (AOE) Ray Barrett; and staff members Lionel Barrett and Kelley Harrison. Also present was Nicki Eke of the Metropolitan Department of Law.

Chairman Eddie Bryan convened the meeting.

Approve December 16, 2008 Meeting Minutes: Commissioner Greer made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2008 meeting as presented. Commissioner Starling seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Call Special Election to Fill Council District 18 Vacancy: The Commissioners reviewed a letter of resignation submitted by Keith Durbin resigning from the Metropolitan Council effective January 5, 2009. AOE Barrett recommended the DCEC hold this special election on Thursday, March 29 in the five (5) precincts with Council District 18. Commissioner Greer made a motion to hold a special election on March 26, 2009 for the purpose of filling the vacancy now existing in Council District 18. Commissioner Escobar seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The Commissioners were advised that Election Day workers would be available for approval at the next Commission meeting already set for February 2, 2009.

Set Early Voting Dates and Time for March 26, 2009 Election: AOE Barrett presented a proposed Early Voting schedule beginning on Friday, March 6 and ending on Saturday, March 21. All early voting would be conducted ONLY at the DCEC office from 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM on weekdays and from 9:00 AM - Noon on Saturdays. Commissioner Greer made a motion to approve the Early Voting schedule as presented. Commissioner Starling seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Approve Mailing of Sample Ballot for Council District 18 Special Election: AOE Barrett recommended the mailing of a sample ballot and other required notices to voters in Council District 18 as a means to achieve cost savings for this special election. Commissioner Heim inquired about other expenses associated with this special election and requested an advance copy of such expenses prior to them being submitted as a funding request to Metro Council. Commissioner Greer made a motion to approve mailing a sample ballot and other required notices to Active registered voters in Council District 18. Commissioner Starling seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Administrator's Report: AOE Barrett reported that the candidate qualification deadline for the Council District 18 Special Election would be February 12. Furthermore, it is possible a run-off election could be required if there are more than two candidates or none of the candidates receives votes totaling 50% plus one in the March 26 election.

Other Business: Commissioner Heim inquired about the notice of inspection of voting machines as referenced in the report provided to the DCEC following the November 2008 election by the League of Women Voters. She requested that all future inspection dates be posted on the DCEC website in addition to the notification procedures already in place.

Next Meeting: The next meeting was scheduled for 3:00 PM on Monday, February 2, 2009 for the purpose of certifying the results of the January 22, 2009 election.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Eddie Bryan, Chairman

Ana Escobar, Member

A. J. Starling, Member

Patricia Heim, Secretary

Lynn Greer, Member